

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7082
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0135

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR: KYPRIANOU
POLICY ON NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A. STATE 7075, B. NICOSIA 129

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH DCM ON JANUARY 13, FONOFF
DIRGEN PELAGHIAS EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT DEPTOFFS' JAN 9
CONVERSATION WITH CYPRUS AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU REPORTED
REF A. PELAGHIAS SEEMED TAKEN ABACK THAT DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS
FELT KYPRIANOU SPEECH OF JANUARY 3 DEMONSTRATED LACK OF
GOC FLEXIBILITY ON CYPRUS ISSUE. HE INSISTED ON READING
OUT DIMITRIOU'S REPORTING TELEGRAM SO "WE COULD COMPARE
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NOTES."

2. PELAGHIAS DEFENDED THE JANUARY 3 SPEECH AS A
PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN STATEMENT. IT WAS A CUSTOM IN
CYPRUS, HE SAID, FOR INCUMBENT PRESIDENTS NOT TO
PARTICIPATE IN REGULAR POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING; THUS
PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU COULD NOT GIVE HIS POLICY STATEMENT

TO A POLITICAL GATHERING. HE CHOSE THE VEHICLE OF A FORMAL STATEMENT AT THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE TO GET HIS MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE. THUS, THE JANUARY 3 SPEECH HAD "A PRE-ELECTION TASTE."

3. PELAGHIAS SAID THE KYPRIANOU SPEECH SHOULD ALSO BE READ IN THE CONTEXT OF MR. DENKTASH'S REPEATED STATEMENTS THAT TURKISH CYPRIOTS WILL "NOT GIVE UP AN INCH" OF TERRITORY. BOTH SIDES, PELAGHIAS SAID, MUST TAKE "EXTREME POSITIONS" IN ADVANCE OF REAL NEGOTIATIONS. THE MORE MODERATE NEGOTIATING POSITIONS WILL APPEAR IF FLEXIBILITY IS DISPLAYED AT THE TABLE.

4. THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH OF JANUARY 8 (MENTIONED REF B--TEXT BEING POUCHED TO DEPT EUR/SE) WAS ALSO BEING CRITICIZED AS INFLEXIBLE, PELAGHIAS NOTED. KYPRIANOU HAD SAID THAT "ALL REFUGEES MUST GO BACK" TO THEIR HOMES. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU KNOWS, AND THE REFUGEES KNOW THE FINAL RESULT WILL BE SHORT OF THAT GOAL. BUT THE SPEECH WAS GIVEN TO THE FOURTH PANCYPRIAN REFUGEE CONFERENCE, KYPRIANOU COULD HAVE SAID NOTHING LESS IN THAT FORUM. IN FACT GOC CONTINUES TO RECOGNIZE THAT SOME REFUGEES WILL NOT GO BACK TO THEIR HOMES AT ALL; SOME WILL GO BACK AT SOME TIME IN FUTURE TO HOMES IN A TURKISH-ADMINISTERED AREA; SOME LUCKY ONES WILL GO BACK TO HOMES IN AREAS TO BE "LIBERATED" FROM TURKS.
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5. DCM THANKED PELAGHIAS FOR EXPOSITION OF GOC'S VIEWS ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH TURK CYPRIOTS. IT WAS GOOD TO KNOW THAT THERE IS MORE FLEXIBILITY IN POSITIONS THAN RECENT SPEECHES INDICATE. SO FAR, HOWEVER, THE WORLD ONLY HAS MR. KYPRIANOU'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS TO INDICATE WHAT HIS POLICIES WILL BE. THE JANUARY 3 AND 8 SPEECHES DO NOT SEEM TO BE PAVING THE WAY FOR BROAD CYPRIOT ACCEPTANCE OF A LIKELY SOLUTION.

6. COMMENT: PELAGHIAS MAY WELL HAVE BEEN UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO TRY TO REBUT DEPT'S JUSTIFIABLE AND TIMELY CRITIQUE. IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CONVERSATION HE SAID HE HAD MET WITH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU THE SAME MORNING.
CRAWFORD

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